

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 22178 061038Z

22-R
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W
----- 030083
R 060649Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1757

UNCLAS BANGKOK 22178

FOR SCARRITT FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, APER, ESCAP
SUBJECT: ESCAP STAFFING

REF: (A) STATE 192455, (B) BANGKOK 19864, (C) BANGKOK 21187

1. I GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR FULL EXPOSITION OF THE COMPLEX
ESCAP STAFFING PROBLEM AND PARTICULARLY REGRET THAT OUR SUGGES-
TIONS HAVE FURTHER COMPLICATED THE ISSUE. REST ASSURED THAT
WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE OFFICER FINALLY SELECTED BY
THE DEPARTMENT. TO REITERATE OUR PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATION (REF B),
IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR THIS POSITION TO BE FILLED.

2. ON BALANCE I STILL BELIEVE SKIFF COULD FILL THE ESCAP
JOB ADMIRABLY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME RETAINING RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE RESIDUAL SEATO FUNCTIONS. THE ADVANTAGE OF SAVING AN
EMBASSY POSITION IS OBVIOUS.

3. MUST ALSO POINT OUT THAT STAFFING IN THE ECONOMIC SECTION
DOES NOT PERMIT ANY APPROPRIATE REASSIGNMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR
NELSON UNTIL WELL INTO 1978. VIEW OUR RECENT DECISION, IN WHICH
DEPARTMENT CONCURRED, TO ABOLISH A COMMERCIAL OFFICER POSITION,
CANNOT FRANKLY FORESEE ANY ADDITIONAL OFFSET OPPORTUNITIES IN THAT
AREA. I FULLY AGREE THAT THE OFFICER ASSIGNED TO ESCAP SHOULD
HAVE IT AS HIS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY, WORKING UNDER THE
SUPERVISION OF ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR.

4. THEREFORE ON BALANCE AND GIVEN THE FACT THAT REESTABLISHMENT
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OF ESCAP POSITION MAY CAUSE SEVERE PROBLEMS FOR YOU WE WOULD

RECOMMEND PROCEEDING AS RECOMMENDED IN BANGKOK 21187.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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